



BY AUTHORITY.

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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HENRY M. WHITNEY.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.

Fox four weeks we have been without a mail from the United States or Europe—an occurrence which seldom happened in the days when we were dependent on sailing vessels for news. It is quite evident that final action had not been taken on the Treaty up to the 18th inst., or we should have learned of it in some way. The steamer will bring Washington dates to July 18th.

Our community has seldom been placed in such a suspense as during the past few weeks. Business has been depressed, waiting for news from the treaty, shipping lying idle and unable to secure freight, the government unable to advise what revenue policy to adopt, the Legislature trifling away time on minor questions, and promising to be known in Hawaiian History as the "long parliament." Never was a people so completely thrown on the "mugged edge of uncertainty" as ourselves. We trust that the first change may be for the better.

The contract between Col. Steinberger and the house of Godfray & Son of Hamburg, which is published on the fourth page shows that the Colonel was bent on enriching himself as well as benefiting the Germans by establishing a government for them. His friends, however, claim that this contract had been cancelled, and was not in force at the time it was discovered among his papers. The Col., at the latest date was in Sydney, on his way to London, where he intends to appear as a witness against Captain Stevens of the Revenue, whose conduct at Samoa has been severely censured by the English press.

The idea forming the subject of Mr. Gibson's address which we print today, is worthy of the serious consideration of the Legislature and the country. It is one year from the 26th of January next, will occur the one hundredth anniversary of the landing of Capt. Cook on the coast of the Waimea river on Kauai. And nothing could be more appropriate than a celebration like that which is proposed. But the time is short and what is to be done must be done quickly. A liberal appropriation should be made by the present Legislative Assembly, and the way prepared for the appointment of a commission consisting of Hawaiians and foreigners, which would earnestly and enthusiastically engage in the labor of preparing an appropriate scheme, and of carrying out its details. The occasion may be made over of great interest to us all. And sufficiently so as to attract many from abroad. Let Hawaii enter upon the undertaking with a patriotic spirit, and let the celebration be made a point for a new departure for the country.

The Revenue.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, the committee appointed to consider the plan of the Minister of Finance, presented their report, which was an able and well considered document. The committee come to such different conclusions from His Excellency, as to render it worth while to investigate the phenomenon, and to try to ascertain the cause. It will be remembered that the Minister anticipates a deficiency of \$60,000 in the revenue in consequence of the action of the treasury, but the committee, having its estimate upon the very same tables used by him, thinks it will not exceed \$40,000. Surely there is a mistake on one side or the other, and a mistake of \$20,000 per annum in this little country is serious. The Minister proposes not only to make up this estimated deficiency of \$60,000 per annum, but to "make hay while the sun shineth" as he puts it, by piling up the agency of taxation till the resultant income to the government amounts to nearly \$160,000 a year more than is required for current expenses. To this most astounding proposition the committee very properly demurs. They argue that there is no room for such a tax, and that it will be injurious to the State.

July 25.—*Ex parte. Wm. Lincoln, Kauai. Infect discharge. Discharged.*

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